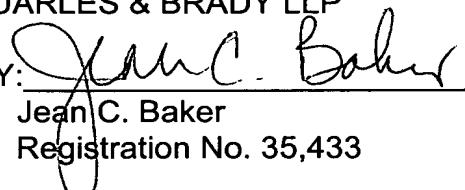


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4 526 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 APR 2000

Applicant respectfully requests that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

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